



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 1 September 1967



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DAILY BRIEF

1 SEPTEMBER 1967

1. North Vietnam

Celebrations in Hanoi yesterday of the twenty-second birthday of the North Vietnamese regime were notable chiefly for the first public appearance of Ho Chi Minh since last spring. Premier Pham Van Dong made the major speech, which was routine.

2. South Vietnam

The two most important civilian candidates for president say they will launch formal protests if the Thieu-Ky ticket wins. Tran Van Huong, who is still considered likely to be runner-up in Sunday's election, expects to lose but claims he has "hard evidence" of irregularities on behalf of the Thieu-Ky ticket. He hopes to document his charges after the election to a special legislative commission as well as to both houses of the US Congress and the foreign press.

Candidate Phan Khac Suu also intends to complain against Thieu and Ky--presumably charging them with fraud--if they win. His complaint would be made through existing legal machinery in the somewhat unrealistic hope that the legislature would eventually invalidate the elections.

3. West Germany

The feeling is growing in Bonn that the year-long economic recession has passed its low point. Optimism, though still cautious, is buoyed by a substantial decline in unemployment and a healthy upswing in industrial orders.

4. Arab States

Nasir has at least come part of the way toward accepting King Husayn's call for reason. He is now said to have implied to his fellow Arab leaders that the time has come to look for some kind of an accommodation with Israel. As usual, however, he is careful to evade responsibility for pushing this line. He claims that reluctance on the part of some Arabs to press on with the war has foreclosed another military round.

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The Soviet leaders' message to the Arab chiefs of state contained the usual unspecific expressions of support for their cause, but seemed to appeal for caution and moderation.

5. Japan

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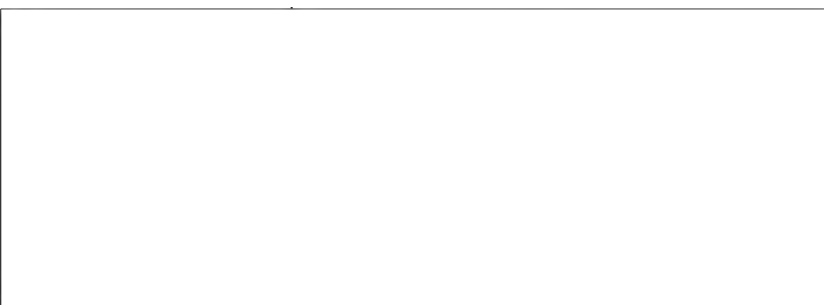
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6. Paraguay

General Stroessner, already Latin America's most durable president, now has the way cleared for two more five-year terms. It was arranged by the convention that has just finished rewriting the constitution.

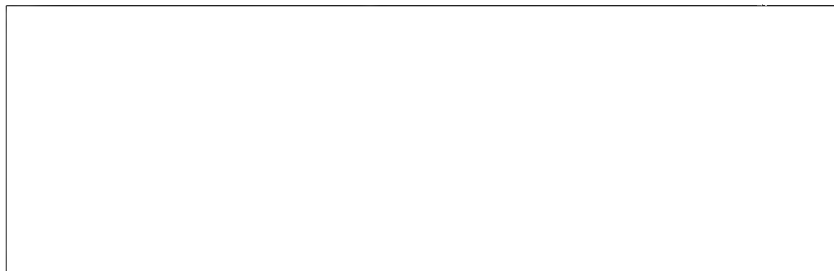
The President feels so secure on the home front that he intends to press on with his program of political liberalization. This has already brought on an aura of "coexistence" in the once violently hostile relations between the country's two traditional parties.

7. Vietnam



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Hanoi radio continues to broadcast Carmichael's revolutionary rantings and yesterday claimed he had been received by Premier Pham Van Dong. The man's actual whereabouts, however, are clouded by what looks very much like a purposeful effort to hide his departure date from Hanoi. He may or may not still be there.



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